(b) whether 40 candidates belonging to OBCs securing selection under general merit category, were later excluded from general category by the UPSC and shifted to the reservation quota entitlement of 27 per cent for the OBCs (117 seats); and

(c) whether the selected candidates belonging to reserved categories are interviewed separately by the Board, segregating them from general pool candidates making them vulnerable to discrimination on account of their social background?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No Sir. There were a total of 457 vacancies (242 General, 117 OBC, 66 SC and 32 ST) reported by various cadre controlling authorities for Civil Services Examination-2005. UPSC have recommended 425 candidates in the first instance out of which 210 belong to general cateogry, 117 to OBC, 66 to the SC and 32 to the ST. Of the OBC and SC candidates, 32 candidates have qualified without availing themselves of any of the concession/relaxation admissible to OBC and SC candidates.

(c) Interview of reserved category candidates is held separarely by the Board so that they are not judged in comparison with general candidates and interview Board are prominently aware of the need of judging them by relaxed standards.

Tribal Officers

1712. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribals who are Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, and Joint Secretaries in Government of India;

(b) the number out of them who are in economic Ministries and how many in non-economic Ministries;

(c) the details thereof, Ministry-wise;

(d) whether there is any discrimination in their postings; and

(e) whether tribal are humiliated in Government of India postings in higher bureaucratic levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The number of tribals who are Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, and Joint Secretaries in Government of India, at present is given below:

Secretary	3
Additional Secretary	3
Joint Secretary	7

(b) and (c) There is no such classification of the Ministries as economic Ministries and non-economic Ministries.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Provision for noting on file in RTI Act

†1713. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item "Government gives in to babus, cripples RTI's published in Hindustan Times dated 22 July, 2006;

(b) whether Government have taken a decision to keep the notings on files out of RTI Act's scope;

(c) whether it is a fact that the pressure from bureaucracy was behind this decision;

(d) whether it is also a fact that because of this provision, the spirit of this act would be lost and this act would become weak as some legal experts have expressed their apprehension about the same; and

(e) if so, Government's intention behind doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The news item "Government gives in to babus, cripples RTI" was published in Hindustan Times, dated 21st July, 2006.

(b) Government has taken a decision to specifically provide in the RTI Act that substantive file notings on plans, schemes and programmes that relate to development and social issues, shall be liable for disclosure.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.